

App. No.: 10/065178
Filed: September 24, 2002
Conf. No.: 6288

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REMARKS

The indicated allowance of claims 29 and 30 and allowability of claims 12-28 subject to their being rewritten in independent form is noted with appreciation. Applicant also notes the Examiner's comments regarding the withdrawal of claims 8, 9 and 31 from consideration and agrees that this was correct with the claims as originally submitted. However, due to the amendment to claim 1, as will be discussed below, it is believed that claims 8 and 9 still properly remain for consideration.

Claim 5 has been amended as so kindly suggested by the Examiner.


Claim 12, indicated as allowable if rewritten in independent form has not been rewritten. In a like manner, claim 13 has not been rewritten but its subject matter has been in part added to claim 1 as it is believed that this addition clearly distinguishes claim 1 over the cited art for reasons that will now be stated.

The cited reference to Tanaka et al certainly is directed to a similar art. However he places his stress measuring device directly upon the manually operated element. This means that it must move along with it and this presents several significant problems. These include those of transmitting signals to the control circuit and also placing the sensor where it might become damaged. Applicants' sensor, on the other hand is loaded by a mechanical connection and thus may be fixed and avoids these problems. Therefore claim 1 has been amended to stress this difference by calling for the mechanical force transmitter that transmits the driving force to the sensor. As such it is believed that claim 1 and those rejected claims that depend upon it are now allowable.

Allowed claim 26 has been rewritten in independent form. This adds an additional independent claim to the case and a credit card authorization for the added fee is attached.

Therefor it is most respectfully submitted that this case is now in condition for favorable action and such action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted:


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